



Agricultural Outlook Forum

Transitions in Markets for Agricultural Information

February 20-21, 2003



Market Information Organization of the Americas

Organización de Información de Mercados de las Américas

Primary Objectives/Goals

- To promote cooperation among member institutions
- To create standards for terminology, methodology and technology
- To facilitate the timely and consistent exchange of market information between the member countries

MIOA has 20 participating countries

- North America
- South America, except Guyana, French Guyana and Suriname
- Central America, except Belize
- Dominican Republic

MIOA and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)

- Population in FTAA countries constitutes 833 million. The participating countries represent 98% of that population – 816 million
- Total trade in agricultural products among FTAA countries is US\$53.2 billion, of which 97% is represented by MIOA countries

Institutions Participating in MIOA

- Institutions representing the countries of the Americas that collect and disseminate market information on agricultural products

History of the Market Information Organization of the Americas

- Concept originated in AMS -
USDA

Formative Meeting - Oakland, CA, August 1999

- 10 countries in attendance
- Draft Rules of Procedure
- Initial Plan of Work

Inaugural Meeting

Rio de Janeiro, June 2000

- 18 countries in attendance
- Approved the Rules of Procedure
- Elected the Executive Committee
- Created working groups

Working Groups of MIOA

- Legal standing of the Organization
- Future funding options
- Resource binder
- Technical assistance and training
- Standardization of terminology, methodology and technology
- Website development

Phoenix, October 2002 Meeting

- 19 countries in attendance
- Letters of Intention – 17 countries
- Rules of Procedure modified
- Resource binder (12 countries)
- Agreed to site of next meeting - Nicaragua

Working Groups

Future Funding Options

- Emerging Markets Program, FAS-USDA
- World Bank – Development Marketplace
- FAO
- USAID
- IICA

Working Groups

Legal Standing of the Organization

- Letters of intention (17 countries have signed and submitted it)
- Rules of Procedure were modified

Working Groups

Resource Binder

- First draft finished
- Collection of information continues
- Additional information requested

Working Groups

Standardization of Terminology, Methodology and Technology

- Central topic of the next regular meeting in Nicaragua
- Proposal for a Glossary of Terms to be submitted for funding to FAO
- Consideration of existing International Standards (ISO)

Working Groups

Technical Assistance and Training

- Matrix – Statistics and Econometrics, Information Systems and Marketing
- Analysis, selection and proposal of first activity to conduct

Working Groups

Development of a Website for the Organization

- Acquired a domain name on the Internet
- Materials to be included in the preliminary website design



Thank You!

Questions ?